

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1526

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

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FROM PAI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR OVIP (JAMES R. SCHLESINGER) NATO XG DK

SUBJECT: SECDEF EUROPEAN VISITS PRESS POLICY

1) THE FOLLOWING ARE QUESTIONS LIKELY TO BE ASKED SECRETARY SCHLESINGER IN ANY GENERAL PRESS CONFERENCE IN COPENHAGEN. IN VIEW OF THEIR GLOBAL NATURE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT APPROPRIATE ANSWERS TO MOST OF THEM COULD BEST BE PROVIDED IN WASHINGTON.

2) QUESTIONS WITH EMBASSY COMMENTS ARE:

(A) HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF A GREEK

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WITHDRAWAL FROM THE INTERGRATED MILITARY COMMAND STRUCTURE?

(B) IF THE BAN ON U.S. EXPORT OF ARMS TO TURKEY IS LIFTED, AT LEAST PARTIALLY, HOW QUICKLY COULD THEY BE RESUMED? WHICH CONSEQUENCES DO YOU FORESEE IF THE BAN IS NOT LIFTED?

(C) WOULDN'T A U.S. DELIVERY OF PERSHING ROCKETS TO ISRAEL COUNTERACT DR. KISSINGER'S EFFORTS OF CREATING A DETENTE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE ARAB WORLD?

(D) IS IT YOUR FEELING THAT THE U.S. PUBLIC SUPPORTS YOUR ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY OF DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION;

(E) IS THERE A TREND TOWARD ISOLATIONISM IN THE U.S. IN YOUR OPINION?

(F) HOW BIG A REDUCTION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE DO YOU ENVISAGE AS A NATO OFFER TO THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES DURING THE UPCOMING MBFR TALKS IN VIENNA?

(G) IS DENMARK'S STRATEGIC POSITION MORE OR LESS EXPOSED AS A RESULT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF OFFENSIVE WEAPONS DURING THE LAST YEARS?

(H) DO YOU FORESEE ANY CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF U.S. FORCES IN GERMANY?

(I) IS THE SOVIET UNION OR THE U.S. AHEAD IN MISSILE DEVELOPMENT? WHO HAS THE STRONGEST OVERALL DEFENSE STRUCTURE?

(J) WOULD A DEMOCRATIC U.S. ADMINISTRATION MEAN A CHANGE IN THE AMERICAN DEFENSE POLICY?

(K) ARE THERE ANY PLANS FOR A NUCLEAR SHIP VISIT TO DENMARK?

(IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT HAS NOT THUS FAR BEEN WILLING TO PERMIT SUCH VISITS.)

(L) ARE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE COUNTRIES IN NATO'S NORTHERN FLANK TO THE JOINT DEFENSE SATISFACTORY?

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(IN HIS REPLY TO THIS QUESTION AND WHILE MAKING CLEAR THAT THE DANISH CONTRIBUTION IS NOT SATISFACTORY IN VIEW OF THE THREAT TO NATO, THE SECRETARY COULD TEMPER HIS COMMENT BY MENTIONING THE FACT THAT THE DANISH FOUR-YEAR COMPROMISE DEFENSE PLAN (1973-77) HAS HAD MORE POSITIVE BENEFITS THAN EXPECTED WHEN ORIGINALLY REVIEWED IN NATO. ITS BUILT-IN AUTOMATIC INFLATION OFFSET HAS PERMITTED MODEST REAL INCREASES IN MATERIEL PROCUREMENT.)

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